

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson XIII.—Fourth Quarter,
For Dec. 27, 1908.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, a Comprehensive
Quarterly Review—Golden Text,
Prov. iv, 23—Commentary Prepared
by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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LESSON I.—David brings the ark to Jerusalem (II Sam. vi, 1-12). Golden Text, Ps. c. 4, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise." The ark of the Lord of the whole earth is the topic in this first lesson and also in the eleventh lesson. Here it is carried at first in man's way, but there in God's appointed way. The great truth in connection with it is that of God dwelling with man as his righteousness through Christ Jesus.

LESSON II.—God's promise to David (I Chron. xvi, 1-14). Golden Text, I Kings viii, 56, "There hath not failed one word of all His good promise." This is a great Messianic lesson, in which David is assured that the Messiah shall come through him, shall be an immortal man and shall sit and reign upon his throne forever in righteousness and truth. He will be the one who dwelt between the cherubim over the mercy seat (Ex. xxv, 22).

LESSON III.—David's kindness to Jonathan's son (II Sam. ix). Golden Text, Eph. iv, 32, "And be ye kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another." This was not mere ordinary kindness and forgiveness; it was the forgiveness of a king who made the forgiven one a member of his own household, with a seat at his table, and restored to him all the inheritance of his father. It is a picture of the kingdom when the Son of David shall reign.

LESSON IV.—The joy of forgiveness (Ps. xxxi). Golden Text, Ps. xxxi, 1, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." The gospel of God concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord proclaims forgiveness of sins apart from any works of ours (Rom. i, 1-3; iv, 1-5, 23-25), wholly through the precious blood of Christ (Eph. i, 7). This redemption includes all else we can possibly need (Rom. viii, 32) and should cause great gladness in the Lord.

LESSON V.—Absalom rebels against David (II Sam. xv, 1-21). Golden Text, Ex. xx, 12, "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." This rebellion suggests that of the nation against the Son of David and the great rebellion yet of the future spoken of in Dan. xi, 31-45; Rev. xiii, xvii and xix, but the Son of David shall come in all His glory, and all His adversaries shall be overthrown.

LESSON VI.—David grieves for Absalom (II Sam. xviii, 24-33). Golden Text, Prov. xvii, 25, "A foolish son is a grief to his father." I think our attention in this lesson should be given to the love of David, who would gladly have died for his son, and from him to our Father in heaven, who commandeth His love to us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

LESSON VII.—The Lord our Shepherd (Ps. xxiii). Golden Text, Ps. xxiii, 1, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." A meditation upon the Lord as the good Shepherd, the great Shepherd and the chief Shepherd is always most profitable. He gave His life for us. He lives His life in us, and He will share His kingdom with us. With such a Shepherd we can lack nothing.

LESSON VIII.—Solomon anointed king (I Kings i, 32-40). Golden Text, I Chron. xxviii, 9, "Know thou the God of thy father, and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind." The rebellion of Adonijah against Solomon came to naught, for it was the purpose of the Lord that Solomon should reign, and every purpose of the Lord shall be performed. He sat on the throne of the Lord as king instead of David, but that throne still awaits a greater than Solomon.

LESSON IX.—World's temperance Sunday (Isa. xxviii, 1-13). Golden Text, I Cor. ix, 27, "I keep under my body and bring it into subjection." If there is anything the world needs specially to know it is the foundation of verse 16 and the coming judgments of verses 17, 18. If the people given to strong drink saw less of the drunkenness of xxiii, 9, and more of the rest and refreshing of xxviii, 12, fewer so called temperance talks would be necessary. Jesus, lifted up, will draw men.

LESSON X.—Solomon chooses wisdom (I Kings iii, 4-15). Golden Text, Prov. ix, 10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Having just been exalted to his high position and realizing in some measure his own insufficiency, he asks of God wisdom to rule the people righteously. The request pleased the Lord, and He granted him not only what he asked, but exceeding abundantly more (Eph. iii).

LESSON XI.—Solomon dedicates the temple (I Kings viii, 1-11). Golden Text, Ps. cxxii, 1, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Both tabernacle and temple when dedicated were filled with the glory of the Lord, and no man could stand to minister. Both were typical of Jesus Christ, in whom dwelt the fullness of the Godhead.

LESSON XII.—A Christmas lesson (Luke ii, 8-20). Golden Text, Luke ii, 11, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." Still a kingdom lesson, for He was born King of the Jews to sit on the throne of David, and this purpose of the Lord shall be performed also.

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It is a waste of time to count the candles on a girl's birthday cake, for it is very seldom that they throw any light on her age.

Some times fleeing from the devil is only a pretext for fleeing from

"THE DARK CORNER."

Zach McGhee's Novel of South
Carolina.

"The Dark Corner," a novel by Zach McGhee, put forth by the Grafton Press of New York, is a book that will appeal to a wide and varied class of readers. Undoubtedly it will arouse discussion, and it is perhaps not too much a guess to say that discussion is one of the objects of the book. For though the story, compelling for its dramatic power, teeming with pathos, and bristling with humor, is primarily to be read for the story itself, it is written with a serious purpose that gives point to the numerous humorous passages, weight to the very entertaining descriptions of the conditions and scenes, and philosophical interpretation both to the extremely original plot and the fascinatingly picturesque characters, which are so vividly portrayed that they seem real persons. It must be acknowledged that there is no one who knows the character of the Southern "countryman" and the men who exploit them, especially in educational and religious lines, better than Mr. McGhee.

It is a Southern novel, but Southern only in the sense that James Lane Allen was Kentuckian or Bret Harte Western. It is distinctly American in its setting and portrayal of character, though universal in its theme and purpose. The locality is Southern only because the author is Southern and familiar, as few others are, with the scenes and characters he depicts, for he goes into a field practically new in several important respects.

It is a Southern story without a carpet-bagger villain and without a skink from "Down East," and "mirabile dictu," a Southern story without the negro, "the first ever written in the history of the world," as Mr. McGhee has jestingly said. The nearest approach he allows himself to the sombre interrogation point is in Simon, the faithful and affectionate attendant who gets impatient with things as they are only when his master insists in discussing the doctrine of the transmigration of the soul instead of dressing for breakfast.

The "Dark Corner" might designate any of the thinly populated pinelands of the South. As a matter of fact, in the Carolinas alone there are at least three bits of country known by this name and one or more in each of several other States. While the general characteristic of the people and the conditions are probably a composite of these, the particular Dark Corner described in a "low, flat, unpropitious country," inhabited by a poverty-stricken, ignorant, but kindly souled, deeply religious and independent people. Lawlessness prevails to a certain extent, and is slightly touched upon, but it is not the theme, nor is it the most interesting or important characteristic of the plot or of the characters.

The story opens in a different and more intelligent and advanced section of the State, but the connection with the Dark Corner is shown deftly and definitely at the outset. The hero, Jim Thompson, a young Southerner of reduced circumstances, who inherited from his ancestors and absorbed from his associations the idea that the law is the only occupation for a gentleman, and early in life his is designed for the law. His earliest dreams and "upward through years" are centered about a beautiful little orphan girl, Amanda, who is taken care of in his home by his mother, but who is suddenly taken away at the age of six, though Jim did not know whither, to live with relatives in the pine-lands.

When Jim finishes college and finds that he must earn money to defray the expenses of his law course, he goes to teach in "The Hollisville Collegiate Military Institute of Professor Marquinius Tillson," the name itself affords sufficient indication of the kind of school it is, but the grotesque performances of this institution and its unspeakable "President" affords material for some of the wittiest and most masterful satire that has ever appeared in this country, perhaps on the educational impostors. The "President" is the villain of the novel, and his exploitation of the people of the Dark Corner where he travels drumming pupils for his school is one of the strongest features of the story.

At the school Jim finds Aileen, a beautiful and attractive girl, reared amid the very influence or culture and intelligence, who comes to teach in the school. Both Jim and Tillson are in love with her. And to the school, deceived by Tillson, comes from the midst of the Dark Corner the "little girl of his dreams," Amanda, rough, uncouth, ignorant, dull, and "tacky."

In some powerful passages Mr. McGhee portrays the awakening of the sense of responsibility to the people he sees so grossly deceived by the silk-hatted, paste-bedimmed Tillson, and especially a more gnawing sense of his particular duty to the girl Amanda, who has been his foster sister and might have been his wife. Aileen tells him that it is not the poor girl's environment but her birth that is to blame for her degradation. In this Simon also agrees, who tells his master that "hit's in de blood jis lak nigger in de blood." At this juncture in a most dramatic way, Jim makes the discovery that Amanda is Aileen's own sister, though neither of them knows it.

He resolves to devote himself to the reclamation of Amanda and the Dark Corner which has blighted her life, but he does not tell either of the girls of their relationship to the other, fearing that it would make each unhappy. He gets Amanda off to college and sets on foot various schemes for the material and industrial as well as educational regeneration of the country.

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SOLE IMPORTERS.



After a most thrilling, picturesque and ludicrous political campaign, in which appear a number of extremely ridiculous caricatures of local "statesmen," Jim annihilates the H. M. C. I. and the grotesque Tillson, having had abundant practice as a school faker goes west to become a medicine faker.

The reader is left for a long time in a quandary as to which one of the sisters he is going to marry, and now; but that is one of the most interesting points of the tale.

J. M. CHARLOTTE.

CHARGED WITH SIX MURDERS
By Poison in the Last Three Years
or So.

Somerville, Mass., Dec. 17.—Pending the result of an examination as to the sanity of Mrs. Mary Kelleher, of this city, now in jail at Cambridge, District Attorney Higgins, has ordered an investigation into the cause of the death of six members of Mrs. Kelleher's family during the past three years.

The specific charge against Mr. Kelleher is that of arson, but the police called the attention of the District Attorney to reports which were in circulation as to the deaths in her family. It is said that the insurance on the lives of the deceased was paid to Mrs. H. Kelleher.

The list of deaths and the causes ascribed follow:

Mrs. Bridget Knowles, sister-in-law, died June 30, 1905, rheumatism.

Annie T. Knowles, sister-in-law, died March 1, 1906, bronchitis.

Stephen V. Kelleher, husband, died May 15, 1906, pneumonia.

Mary Kelleher, daughter, died November 21, 1906, bronchitis.

William Kelleher, son died January 14, 1908, heart disease.

Katherine Kelleher, daughter, died July 23, 1908, strychnine poisoning.

JONES REFUSED BAIL.

Chief Justice Pope Reversed by Other Justices.

Columbia, Dec. 18.—The Supreme Court today filed its order in the case of W. T. Jones, refusing bail to the defendant-petitioner, and also filed the formal order dismissing the appeal from Judge Hydrick's order refusing bail to Jones and sustaining Judge Hydrick.

In the latter decision Chief Justice Pope, and Associate Justice Gary and Jones all concur, but in the order refusing bail on the motion in the original jurisdiction of the Court, Chief Justice Pope does not concur. Associate Justice Woods does not sign either order, being unable to consider official business by reason of illness in his family.

The result of these orders is that Jones must remain in jail at Union until the next term of the court of General Sessions at Union, when the case in which he is charged with the murder of his wife will be called. Whether or not the case will then be tried is, of course, yet to be determined, as other motions may be made.

Pleasant, sure, easy, safe little liver Pills, are DeWitt's Little Early Risers. They are easy to take and act gently. We sell and recommend them. For sale by A. C. Dukes, M. D., and A. C. Doyle & Co.

Keeps Mosquitoes Away.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Dr. Alorzo C. Tenney says that eucalyptus trees are a safeguard against annoyance by mosquitoes when placed near human habitations. He has suggested in an address that some of these trees be planted in the proposed park belt in Chicago.

Never say die! Fry L. L. L. Buy Lowman's Liver Lifters. Take Lowman's Liver Lifters. Use Lowman's Liver Lifters. Try Lowman's Liver Lifters. Harris Lithia Water. For sale by Lowman & Lowman.

THEY LIVED LONG.

A Remarkable North Carolina Family of Pensioners.

Hendersonville, N. C., Dec. 17.—C. M. Justice, who is 75 years old, his brothers John and J. R., who are 70 and 76 respectively, and their father, who is 95 years old, are all pensioners of North Carolina. Mr. C. M. Justice, who is still extremely active, is a resident of this town. He enlisted in '62, in Capt. T. P. Jones, company, and served his country until the surrender. Mr. Justice was in town last Saturday and received his Christmas gift from the people of North Carolina in the form of a pension claim.—The Hustler.

The Little Boy's Baby Prayer.

Dear God, I need You awful bad; I don't know what to do; My papa's cross, my mamma's sick; I hain't no fren' but You. Them keener angels went an' bring, 'Stid of the boy I ast, A wenchy, teenchy baby girl. I don't see how they dast!

Say, God, I wish 't You'd take her back.

She's just as good as new; Won't no one know she's second-hand.

But 'cep'n' me an' You; An' pick a boy, dear God, Yourself.

The nicest in Yer fold; But please don't choose quite so young.

I'd like him 5 years old. —Lippincott's.

Religion has no home in the man who does not show his religion at home.

BABY TORTURED
FOR 6 MONTHS

By Terrible Itching Eczema—Face and Head a Solid Sore—Spread to His Hand and Legs—Would Scratch Until He Bled—Tiny Sufferer Immediately Relieved and

ENTIRELY CURED IN 2
MONTHS BY CUTICURA

"When my son Walter was three weeks old, eczema appeared on his face. We did not know what it was so we went to a doctor who treated him for three months. Then he was so bad that his face and head were nothing but one sore and his ears looked as if they were going to fall off, so we tried another doctor. He said he could cure him and we never getting any better. His hand and legs then had big sores on them and as for his sleeping, we could not think of it, the poor little fellow suffered so terribly. First I tied his hands to the crib to keep him from scratching, but when it got so bad I tied him in a shawl or he would scratch himself all bloody. When he was seven months old we tried a set of the Cuticura Remedies. The first application of Cuticura let him sleep and rest well, in one week the sores were gone but it stayed red and sometimes it would itch so we used Cuticura for two months, then he had a clear and white face. Now he is two years and seven months old and has never had eczema again. I hope this letter will help some who are suffering from skin disease. Every mother who has a baby suffering with skin disease should just try Cuticura; there is nothing better. Mrs. Louis Beck, R. F. D. 3, San Antonio, Tex., Apr. 15, '07."

A single set of Cuticura Remedies is often sufficient to cure torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, and scaly humors, eczemas, rashes, and irritations, from infancy to age, when all other remedies fail.

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62 Mailed Free. Cuticura Book on Skin Diseases.

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ARRIVING AND TO ARRIVE. 100 bunches fine Bananas. 50 barrels Apples, 50 boxes Oranges. Also Grapes, Lemons, Coconuts, Cabbage.

FANCY AND STAPLE GROCERIES. Best stock on hand ever carried. 50 boxes fine cream cheese, 17c. Fresh invoice of that fine Butter that has given such universal satisfaction, 30c lb.

SHOES AND LEATHER. My stock of Shoes at cost to close out this line. Leather at jobbers' prices. I will have for sale one million Island Cabbage Plants, all varieties, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per thousand, according to quality.

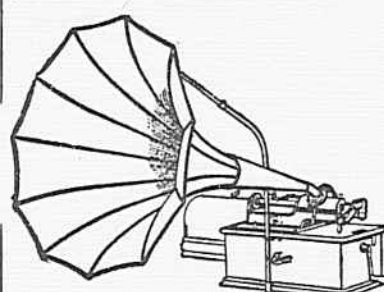
1,000 POUNDS NUTS. Paper shell Almonds . . . 18c lb. Fancy Grenoble Walnuts . . . 18c lb. Fancy long Pecans . . . 18c lb. Jumbo Brazils . . . 15c lb.

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